### What is claimed is:

1. A method for the prevention or treatment of proliferative diseases, which comprises administering pharmaceutically effective amounts of a combination of:

- (a) a VEGF inhibitor compound; and
- (b) one or more chemotherapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of:
  - i. an aromatase inhibitor:
  - ii. an anti-estrogen, an anti-androgen (especially in the case of prostate cancer) or a gonadorelin agonist;
  - iii. a topoisomerase I inhibitor or a topoisomerase II inhibitor;
  - iv. a microtubule active agent, an alkylating agent, an anti-neoplastic antimetabolite or a platin compound;
  - v. a compound targeting/decreasing a protein or lipid kinase activity or a protein or lipid phosphatase activity, a further anti-angiogenic compound or a compound which induces cell differentiation processes:
  - vi. a bradykinin 1 receptor or an angiotensin II antagonist;
  - vii. a cyclooxygenase inhibitor, a bisphosphonate, a heparanase inhibitor (prevents heparan sulphate degradation), e.g., PI-88, a biological response modifier, preferably a lymphokine or interferons, e.g., interferon γ, an ubiquitination inhibitor, or an inhibitor which blocks anti-apoptotic pathways;
  - viii. an inhibitor of Ras oncogenic isoforms or a farnesyl transferase inhibitor;
  - ix. a telomerase inhibitor, e.g., telomestatin;
  - x. a protease inhibitor, a matrix metalloproteinase inhibitor, a methionine aminopeptidase inhibitor, e.g., bengamide or a derivative thereof, or a proteasome inhibitor, e.g., PS-341;
  - xi. agents used in the treatment of hematologic malignancies or FMS-like tyrosine kinase inhibitors;
  - xii. an HSP90 inhibitors;
  - xiii. HDAC inhibitors;
  - xiv. mTOR inhibitors;
  - xv. Somatostatin receptor antagonists;
  - xvi. integrin antagonists;
  - xvii. antileukemic compounds;
  - xviii. tumor cell damaging approaches such as ionizing radiation;

xix. EDG binders:

xx. anthranilic acid amide class of kinase inhibitors;

xxi. ribonucleotide reductase inhibitors;

xxii. S-adenosylmethionine decarboxylase inhibitors;

xxiii. antibodies against VEGF or VEGFR;

xxiv. photodynamic therapy;

xxv. angiostatic steroids;

xxvi. implants containing corticosteroids;

xxvii. AT1 receptor antagonists; and

xxviii. ACE inhibitors.

# 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is

### (i) of the formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
W \\
NR_1R_2 \\
N \\
R_3 \\
(CRR')n-X
\end{array}$$
(I)

### wherein

n is from 1 up to and including 6;

W is O or S:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently of each other hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower acyl;

R<sub>2</sub> represents an cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted;

R and R' are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

X represents an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted;

or of an N-oxide or a possible tautomer thereof;

or of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt;

(ii) of the formula (II)

$$\begin{array}{c|c} R_4 & W & R_1 \\ \hline R_5 & X & R_7 \\ \hline R_6 & Y & R_2 \end{array} \tag{II)}$$

wherein

W is O or S;

X is NR<sub>8</sub>;

Y is CR<sub>9</sub>R<sub>10</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>,

wherein

 $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  are, independently, of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub> is aryl;

 $R_2$  is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that  $R_2$  cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of  $Y = SO_2$  cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$ , independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub>, independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl; or of an *N*-oxide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or

(iii) of the formula (III)

wherein

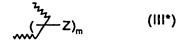
r is 0 to 2.

n is 0 to 2,

m is 0 to 4,

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> (i) are lower alkyl or

(ii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*)



the binding being achieved via the two terminal carbon atoms, or

(iii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*\*)

$$T_{1}$$

$$T_{2}$$

$$T_{4} = T_{3}$$
(III\*\*)

wherein one or two of the ring members  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  are nitrogen, and the others are in each case CH, and the binding is achieved via  $T_1$  and  $T_4$ ;

A, B, D, and E are, independently of one another, N or CH, with the stipulation that not more than 2 of these radicals are N;

G is lower alkylene, lower alkylene substituted by acyloxy or hydroxy, -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-, oxa (-O-), thia (-S-), or imino (-NH-);

Q is lower alkyl;

R is H or lower alkyl;

X is imino, oxa, or thia;

Y is unsubstituted or substituted aryl, pyridyl, or unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl; and

Z is amino, mono- or disubstituted amino, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxy, etherified or esterified hydroxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, esterified carboxy, alkanoyl, carbamoyl, N-mono- or N,N-disubstituted carbamoyl, amidino, guanidino, mercapto, sulfo, phenylthio, phenyl-lower alkylthio, alkylphenylthio, phenylsulfonyl, phenyl-lower alkylsulfinyl or alkylphenylsulfinyl, substituents Z being the same or different from one another if more than 1 radical Z is present;

and wherein the bonds characterized, if present, by a wavy line are either single or double bonds;

or an N-oxide of the defined compound, wherein 1 or more N atoms carry an oxygen atom, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound having at least one salt-forming group.

- 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is 1-(4-chloroanilino)-4-(4-pyridylmethyl)phthalazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 4. The method according to claim 1, which comprises administering pharmaceutically effective amounts of a combination of:
  - (a) a VEGF inhibitor compound; and
  - (b) one or more chemotherapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of HDAC inhibitors, microtube active agents, inhibitors or the EGF receptor tyrosine kinase family, mTOR inhibitors, COX-2 inhibitors, ionizing radiation, IGF-IR inhibitors, aromatase inhibitors, bisphosphonates, Bcr-Abl kinase inhibitors, FLT-3 kinase inhibitors, ALK inhibitors, c-Kit inhibitors, platelet-derived growth factor receptor inhibitors, Raf kinase inhibitors, HSP-90 inhibitors, antibodies against VEGF and VEGFR, MMP inhibitors, SRC inhibitors, farnesyl transferse inhibitors and EDG binders.
- The method according to claim 4, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is(i) of the formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & W \\
 & NR_1R_2 \\
 & N \\
 & R_3 \\
 & (CRR')n-X
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein

n is from 1 up to and including 6;

W is O or S:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently of each other hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower acyl;

R<sub>2</sub> represents an cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted:

R and R' are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

X represents an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted;

or of an *N*-oxide or a possible tautomer thereof; or of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt;

# (ii) of the formula (II)

wherein

W is O or S;

X is NR<sub>8</sub>;

Y is CR<sub>9</sub>R<sub>10</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0</sub>,

wherein

 $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  are, independently, of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub> is aryl;

 $R_2$  is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that  $R_2$  cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of  $Y = SO_2$  cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub>, independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

 $R_7$  and  $R_8$ , independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl; or of an *N*-oxide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or

(iii) of the formula (III)

wherein

r is 0 to 2,

n is 0 to 2.

m is 0 to 4,

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> (i) are lower alkyl or

(ii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*)

the binding being achieved via the two terminal carbon atoms, or

(iii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*\*)

$$T_{1}$$

$$T_{2}$$

$$T_{4} = T_{3}$$
(III\*\*)

wherein one or two of the ring members  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  are nitrogen, and the others are in each case CH, and the binding is achieved via  $T_1$  and  $T_4$ ;

A, B, D, and E are, independently of one another, N or CH, with the stipulation that not more than 2 of these radicals are N;

G is lower alkylene, lower alkylene substituted by acyloxy or hydroxy, -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-, oxa (-O-), thia (-S-), or imino (-NH-);

Q is lower alkyl;

R is H or lower alkyl;

X is imino, oxa, or thia;

Y is unsubstituted or substituted aryl, pyridyl, or unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl; and

Z is amino, mono- or disubstituted amino, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxy,

etherified or esterified hydroxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, esterified carboxy, alkanoyl, carbamoyl, N-mono- or N,N-disubstituted carbamoyl, amidino, guanidino, mercapto, sulfo, phenylthio, phenyl-lower alkylthio, alkylphenylthio, phenylsulfonyl, phenyl-lower alkylsulfinyl or alkylphenylsulfinyl, substituents Z being the same or different from one another if more than 1 radical Z is present;

and wherein the bonds characterized, if present, by a wavy line are either single or double bonds;

or an N-oxide of the defined compound, wherein 1 or more N atoms carry an oxygen atom, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound having at least one salt-forming group.

- 6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is 1-(4-chloroanilino)-4-(4-pyridylmethyl)phthalazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 7. The method according to claim 1, which comprises administering pharmaceutically effective amounts of a combination of:
  - (a) a VEGF inhibitor compound; and
  - (b) one or more chemotherapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of *N*-hydroxy-3-[4-[[[2-(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-ethyl]-amino]methyl]phenyl]-2*E*-2-propenamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, *N*-hydroxy-3-[4-[(2-hydroxyethyl){2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl]-amino]methyl]phenyl]-2*E*-2-propenamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, epothilones and derivatives thereof, taxanes, discodermolides, vinca alkaloids, colchicines, gefitinib, IGF-IR inhibitors, trastuzumab, RAD001, CCI-779, rapamycin, AP23573, lumiracoxib, celecoxib, valdecoxib, rofecoxib, 5-FU, platin compounds, DNA alkylators, letrozole, anastrozole, exemestane, zoledronic acid, pamidronic acid, imatinib such as especially imatinib mesylate, PD173955, PKC412, MLN518, interferons, Ara-C, bisulfan, SU101, SU6668, GFB-111, BAY43-9006, PD184352, 17-AAG, geldanamycin-related compounds and radicicol.
- 8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is(i) of the formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & W \\
 & NR_1R_2 \\
 & R_3 \\
 & (CRR')n-X
\end{array}$$
(I)

### wherein

n is from 1 up to and including 6;

W is O or S;

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently of each other hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower acyl;

R₂ represents an cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted;

R and R' are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

X represents an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted;

or of an *N*-oxide or a possible tautomer thereof; or of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt;

(ii) of the formula (II)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_4 & W \\
R_5 & R_7 \\
R_6 & Y \\
R_2
\end{array}$$
(II)

### wherein

W is O or S:

X is NR<sub>8</sub>;

Y is CR<sub>9</sub>R<sub>10</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>,

wherein

R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>10</sub> are, independently, of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub> is aryl;

 $R_2$  is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that  $R_2$  cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of  $Y = SO_2$  cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub>, independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

 $R_7$  and  $R_8$ , independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl; or of an N-oxide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or

### (iii) of the formula (III)

wherein

r is 0 to 2,

n is 0 to 2,

m is 0 to 4,

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> (i) are lower alkyl or

(ii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*)

the binding being achieved via the two terminal carbon atoms, or

(iii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*\*)

$$T_1$$

$$T_2$$

$$T_4 = T_3$$
(III\*\*)

wherein one or two of the ring members  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  are nitrogen, and the others are in each case CH, and the binding is achieved via  $T_1$  and  $T_4$ ;

A, B, D, and E are, independently of one another, N or CH, with the stipulation that not more than 2 of these radicals are N;

G is lower alkylene, lower alkylene substituted by acyloxy or hydroxy, -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-, oxa (-O-), thia (-S-), or imino (-NH-);

Q is lower alkyl;

R is H or lower alkyl;

X is imino, oxa, or thia;

Y is unsubstituted or substituted aryl, pyridyl, or unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl; and

Z is amino, mono- or disubstituted amino, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxy, etherified or esterified hydroxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, esterified carboxy, alkanoyl, carbamoyl, N-mono- or N,N-disubstituted carbamoyl, amidino, guanidino, mercapto, sulfo, phenylthio, phenyl-lower alkylthio, alkylphenylthio, phenylsulfonyl, phenyl-lower alkylsulfinyl or alkylphenylsulfinyl, substituents Z being the same or different from one another if more than 1 radical Z is present;

and wherein the bonds characterized, if present, by a wavy line are either single or double bonds;

or an N-oxide of the defined compound, wherein 1 or more N atoms carry an oxygen atom, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound having at least one salt-forming group.

- 9. The method according to claim 7, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is 1-(4-chloroanilino)-4-(4-pyridylmethyl)phthalazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
  - (a) a VEGF inhibitor compound; and
  - (b) one or more chemotherapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of:
    - i. an aromatase inhibitor:

ii. an anti-estrogen, an anti-androgen (especially in the case of prostate cancer) or a gonadorelin agonist;

- iii. a topoisomerase I inhibitor or a topoisomerase II inhibitor;
- iv. a microtubule active agent, an alkylating agent, an anti-neoplastic antimetabolite or a platin compound;
- v. a compound targeting/decreasing a protein or lipid kinase activity or a protein or lipid phosphatase activity, a further anti-angiogenic compound or a compound which induces cell differentiation processes;
- vi. a bradykinin 1 receptor or an angiotensin II antagonist;
- vii. a cyclooxygenase inhibitor, a bisphosphonate, a heparanase inhibitor (prevents heparan sulphate degradation), e.g., PI-88, a biological response modifier, preferably a lymphokine or interferons, e.g., interferon γ, an ubiquitination inhibitor, or an inhibitor which blocks anti-apoptotic pathways:
- viii. an inhibitor of Ras oncogenic isoforms or a farnesyl transferase inhibitor;
- ix. a telomerase inhibitor, e.g., telomestatin;
- x. a protease inhibitor, a matrix metalloproteinase inhibitor, a methionine aminopeptidase inhibitor, e.g., bengamide or a derivative thereof, or a proteasome inhibitor, e.g., PS-341;
- xi. agents used in the treatment of hematologic malignancies or FMS-like tyrosine kinase inhibitors;
- xii. an HSP90 inhibitors:
- xiii. HDAC inhibitors;
- xiv. mTOR inhibitors;
- xv. somatostatin receptor antagonists;
- xvi. integrin antagonists;
- xvii. anti-leukemic compounds;
- xviii. tumor cell damaging approaches, such as ionizing radiation;
- xix. EDG binders;
- xx. anthranilic acid amide class of kinase inhibitors;
- xxi. ribonucleotide reductase inhibitors;
- xxii. S-adenosylmethionine decarboxylase inhibitors;
- xxiii. antibodies against VEGF or VEGFR;
- xxiv. photodynamic therapy:
- xxv. angiostatic steroids;

xxvi. implants containing corticosteroids;

xxvii. AT1 receptor antagonists; and

xxviii. ACE inhibitors.

# 11. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is

### (i) of the formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & W \\
 & NR_1R_2 \\
 & N \\
 & R_3 \\
 & (CRR')n-X
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein

n is from 1 up to and including 6;

W is O or S;

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently of each other hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower acyl;

R<sub>2</sub> represents an cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted;

R and R' are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

X represents an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted;

or of an N-oxide or a possible tautomer thereof; or of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt;

(ii) of the formula (II)

$$\begin{array}{c|c} R_4 & W \\ \hline \\ R_5 & X \\ \hline \\ R_6 & Y \\ \hline \\ R_2 \end{array} \hspace{1cm} \text{(II)}$$

wherein

W is O or S;

X is NR<sub>8</sub>;

Y is CR<sub>9</sub>R<sub>10</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>,

wherein

 $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  are, independently, of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub> is aryl;

 $R_2$  is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that  $R_2$  cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of  $Y = SO_2$  cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$ , independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

 $R_7$  and  $R_8$ , independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl; or of an N-oxide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or

# (iii) of the formula (III)

wherein

r is 0 to 2,

n is 0 to 2,

m is 0 to 4,

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> (i) are lower alkyl or

(ii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*)

the binding being achieved via the two terminal carbon atoms, or

(iii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*\*)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
T_1 & & \\
T_2 & & (|||^{**}) \\
T_4 = T_3 & & \end{array}$$

wherein one or two of the ring members  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  are nitrogen, and the others are in each case CH, and the binding is achieved via  $T_1$  and  $T_4$ ;

A, B, D, and E are, independently of one another, N or CH, with the stipulation that not more than 2 of these radicals are N;

G is lower alkylene, lower alkylene substituted by acyloxy or hydroxy,  $-CH_2-O_-$ ,  $-CH_2-S_-$ ,  $-CH_2-NH_-$ , oxa (-O-), thia (-S-), or imino (-NH-);

Q is lower alkyl;

R is H or lower alkyl;

X is imino, oxa, or thia;

Y is unsubstituted or substituted aryl, pyridyl, or unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl; and.

Z is amino, mono- or disubstituted amino, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxy, etherified or esterified hydroxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, esterified carboxy, alkanoyl, carbamoyl, N-mono- or N,N-disubstituted carbamoyl, amidino, guanidino, mercapto, sulfo, phenylthio, phenyl-lower alkylthio, alkylphenylthio, phenylsulfonyl, phenyl-lower alkylsulfinyl or alkylphenylsulfinyl, substituents Z being the same or different from one another if more than 1 radical Z is present;

and wherein the bonds characterized, if present, by a wavy line are either single or double bonds;

or an N-oxide of the defined compound, wherein 1 or more N atoms carry an oxygen atom,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound having at least one salt-forming group.

- 12. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is 1-(4-chloroanilino)-4-(4-pyridylmethyl)phthalazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 13. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10 comprising:
  - (a) a VEGF inhibitor compound; and
  - (b) one or more chemotherapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of HDAC inhibitors, microtube active agents, inhibitors or the EGF receptor tyrosine kinase family, mTOR inhibitors, COX-2 inhibitors, ionizing radiation, IGF-IR inhibitors, aromatase inhibitors, bisphosphonates, Bcr-Abl kinase inhibitors, FLT-3 kinase inhibitors, ALK inhibitors, c-Kit inhibitors, platelet-derived growth factor receptor inhibitors, Raf kinase inhibitors, HSP-90 inhibitors, antibodies against VEGF and VEGFR, MMP inhibitors, SRC inhibitors, farnesyl transferse inhibitors and EDG binders.
- 14. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is
  - (i) of the formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & W \\
 & NR_1R_2 \\
 & N \\
 & R_3 \\
 & (CRR')n-X
\end{array}$$
(I)

wherein

n is from 1 up to and including 6;

W is O or S;

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently of each other hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower acyl;

R<sub>2</sub> represents an cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted;

R and R' are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

X represents an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted;

or of an N-oxide or a possible tautomer thereof; or of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt;

### (ii) of the formula (II)

wherein

W is O or S;

X is NR<sub>8</sub>;

Y is CR<sub>9</sub>R<sub>10</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>,

wherein

 $R_{9}$  and  $R_{10}$  are, independently, of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO<sub>2</sub>;

R₁ is aryl;

 $R_2$  is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that  $R_2$  cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of  $Y = SO_2$  cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$  and  $R_6$ , independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

 $R_7$  and  $R_8$ , independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl; or of an N-oxide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or

(iii) of the formula (III)

wherein

r is 0 to 2,

n is 0 to 2,

m is 0 to 4,

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> (i) are lower alkyl or

(ii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*)

the binding being achieved via the two terminal carbon atoms, or

(iii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*\*)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
T_1 & & \\
T_2 & & (III^{**}) \\
T_4 = T_3 & & \end{array}$$

wherein one or two of the ring members  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  are nitrogen, and the others are in each case CH, and the binding is achieved via  $T_1$  and  $T_4$ ;

A, B, D, and E are, independently of one another, N or CH, with the stipulation that not more than 2 of these radicals are N;

G is lower alkylene, lower alkylene substituted by acyloxy or hydroxy, -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-, oxa (-O-), thia (-S-), or imino (-NH-);

Q is lower alkyl;

R is H or lower alkyl;

X is imino, oxa, or thia;

Y is unsubstituted or substituted aryl, pyridyl, or unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl; and

Z is amino, mono- or disubstituted amino, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxy,

etherified or esterified hydroxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, esterified carboxy, alkanoyl, carbamoyl, N-mono- or N,N-disubstituted carbamoyl, amidino, guanidino, mercapto, sulfo, phenylthio, phenyl-lower alkylthio, alkylphenylthio, phenylsulfonyl, phenyl-lower alkylsulfinyl or alkylphenylsulfinyl, substituents Z being the same or different from one another if more than 1 radical Z is present;

and wherein the bonds characterized, if present, by a wavy line are either single or double bonds;

or an N-oxide of the defined compound, wherein 1 or more N atoms carry an oxygen atom, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound having at least one salt-forming group.

- 15. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is 1-(4-chloroanilino)-4-(4-pyridylmethyl)phthalazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 16. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10 comprising:
  - (a) a VEGF inhibitor compound; and
  - (b) one or more chemotherapeutic agents selected from the group consisting of *N*-hydroxy-3-[4-[[[2-(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-ethyl]-amino]methyl]phenyl]-2*E*-2-propenamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, *N*-hydroxy-3-[4-[(2-hydroxyethyl){2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl]-amino]methyl]phenyl]-2*E*-2-propenamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, epothilones and derivatives thereof, taxanes, discodermolides, vinca alkaloids, colchicines, gefitinib, IGF-IR inhibitors, trastuzumab, RAD001, CCI-779, rapamycin, AP23573, lumiracoxib, celecoxib, valdecoxib, rofecoxib, 5-FU, platin compounds, DNA alkylators, letrozole, anastrozole, exemestane, zoledronic acid, pamidronic acid, imatinib such as especially imatinib mesylate, PD173955, PKC412, MLN518, interferons, Ara-C, bisulfan, SU101, SU6668, GFB-111, BAY43-9006, PD184352, 17-AAG, geldanamycin-related compounds and radicicol.
- 17. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is
  - (i) of the formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
W \\
NR_1R_2 \\
R_3 \\
(CRR')n-X
\end{array}$$
(I)

#### wherein

n is from 1 up to and including 6;

W is O or S:

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent independently of each other hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower acyl;

R<sub>2</sub> represents an cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted;

R and R' are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

X represents an aryl group, or a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms and 0, 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently from each other selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur, which groups in each case are unsubstituted or mono- or poly-substituted;

or of an *N*-oxide or a possible tautomer thereof; or of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt;

(ii) of the formula (II)

### wherein

W is O or S:

X is NR<sub>8</sub>;

Y is CR<sub>9</sub>R<sub>10</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>,

wherein

R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>10</sub> are, independently, of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub> is aryl;

 $R_2$  is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that  $R_2$  cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of  $Y = SO_2$  cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub>, independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

 $R_7$  and  $R_8$ , independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl; or of an N-oxide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or

## (iii) of the formula (III)

$$\begin{array}{c}
N = X \\
X \\
(CHR)_n \\
R_1
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
A = B \\
N \\
D - E \\
Q)_r
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
X \\
CHR)_n \\
R_2
\end{array}$$
(III)

wherein

r is 0 to 2,

n is 0 to 2.

m is 0 to 4,

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> (i) are lower alkyl or

(ii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*)

the binding being achieved via the two terminal carbon atoms, or

(iii) together form a bridge in subformula (III\*\*)

$$T_1 = T_3 \qquad (III**)$$

wherein one or two of the ring members  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  are nitrogen, and the others are in each case CH, and the binding is achieved via  $T_1$  and  $T_4$ ;

A, B, D, and E are, independently of one another, N or CH, with the stipulation that not more than 2 of these radicals are N;

G is lower alkylene, lower alkylene substituted by acyloxy or hydroxy, -CH<sub>2</sub>-O-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-, oxa (-O-), thia (-S-), or imino (-NH-);

Q is lower alkyl;

R is H or lower alkyl;

X is imino, oxa, or thia;

Y is unsubstituted or substituted aryl, pyridyl, or unsubstituted or substituted cycloalkyl; and

Z is amino, mono- or disubstituted amino, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, hydroxy, etherified or esterified hydroxy, nitro, cyano, carboxy, esterified carboxy, alkanoyl, carbamoyl, N-mono- or N,N-disubstituted carbamoyl, amidino, guanidino, mercapto, sulfo, phenylthio, phenyl-lower alkylthio, alkylphenylthio, phenylsulfonyl, phenyl-lower alkylsulfinyl or alkylphenylsulfinyl, substituents Z being the same or different from one another if more than 1 radical Z is present;

and wherein the bonds characterized, if present, by a wavy line are either single or double bonds:

or an N-oxide of the defined compound, wherein 1 or more N atoms carry an oxygen atom, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound having at least one salt-forming group.

- 18. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, wherein the VEGF inhibitor compound is 1-(4-chloroanilino)-4-(4-pyridylmethyl)phthalazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 19. The method of claim 1, wherein the proliferative disease is selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, lung cancer, ovarian cancer, lymphoma, head and/or neck cancer and cancer of the esophagus, stomach, bladder, prostrate, uterus and cervix.